

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Thought for the Day
Selected by Frank A. Fitzpatrick
"Love of truth shows itself in this, that a man knows how to find and value the good in every thing."
—Goethe.

Hi, there, boys, are you still sticking to the old wagon?
Welcome, implement dealers, for a good start in your convention for a prosperous New Year!

Another twenty-four hours will tell us who's who in the Nebraska speakership handicap hurdle race.

Yet as badly wounded as civilization has been, it can and will survive the war and in time be stronger than ever.

Evidently the war of 1812 did not teach as lasting a lesson about meddling with American commerce as we thought it did.

The Memphis News-Scimitar says "the old town is all right despite its calculators." Yes, most towns are, Omaha included.

Really now, no one would miss the coroner's office except the coroner and those who have the call to serve regularly on the coroner's jury.

"Economy" may be the watchword of this democratic congress, but remember that "words are good and only so when backed by deeds."

It seems a man cannot get arrested in Mexico for calling another a bandit, although he might get shot for it if caught off his guard.

Regarding whether neutral nations recognize Belgium as German or not, eye witnesses report difficulty in recognizing it as Belgium.

Those senators who have been doing the patchwork on the immigration bill evidently want to make sure that President Wilson will veto it.

Former President Taft says a man cannot play "good" golf and curse at the same time. Those chaps who do the cursing, then, are the poor players.

Perhaps if that Tennessee centurian had not eaten hot biscuits twice a day and smoked his pipe almost constantly he might have lived to a ripe old age.

The president denies the existence of any ill feeling between him and the senate over the matter of patronage, and the senate is too strong on courtesy to enter rebuttal.

When Rudyard Kipling refers to London as "some city," he pays an unconscious, but nonetheless obvious, tribute to the delicate refinement of the American language.

That so-called "slow ball bomb," with which the Germans are terrorizing the Russians, must be an adaptation of the "snake curve" delivery of some of our American league pitchers.

Some folks are stirring up a fuss over Jim Patten's donation of \$25,000, which came out of his wheat crop. But no one denies that it counts for 25,000 perfectly good dollars.

Thirty Years Ago
This Day in Omaha
The subject for the evening sermon by Rev. A. F. Sherrill, pastor of the First Congregational church, was "An Original Tale, and Its Present Lesson."
The church notice for the St. Mary's Avenue Congregational church, of which Rev. Willard Scott is pastor, includes this information: "St. Mary's avenue cars pass the door, leaving Farnam at 10:35 a. m. and 7:35 p. m."

Our Duty to the Filipino.
Despite systematic efforts of the administration to minimize the importance of the Filipino riots committed in anticipation of the passage of the Jones bill granting independence to the islands, the impression grows that conditions there are deteriorating instead of improving under the spell of democratic agitation for complete autonomy.

In view of the character of these people, a large proportion of whom have but the scantiest idea of the meaning and obligations of self-government, it would be unfair to expect it to be otherwise. It will not be easy to explain away the arrest of these fifty Manila insurgents, so upset by the delirium of their dreams that they smite the very hand that proposes to feed them.

From its earliest occupation the American government has stood firmly for a constantly increasing measure of self-government commensurate with the Filipino's progress. But to force autonomy on him prematurely, or a disproportionate measure of it, as the Jones act contemplates, risks doing him, as well as our own government, an injury rather than justice. The advance along lines of health, education, business and knowledge of government made by some of these natives under American rule is nothing short of a prodigy. Now to withdraw abruptly the guiding hand that has led them in the arts of modern life, is not only to abandon them, but possibly to overturn and undo most, if not all, the great good accomplished. Without debating the pros and cons of our original occupation of the islands, the overshadowing fact is that the American people want and shall stand by the duty and responsibility assumed in the Philippines until the task is done, and it is decidedly open to question that the Filipinos have as yet reached that stage of development where they can stand alone.

The Net Results.
By the settlement of the sheriff's accumulated bills the fight against the jail feeding graft, uncompromisingly waged by The Bee, has resulted in cutting down the charge from 50 cents a day to 32 cents a day, a reduction of 18 cents per prisoner per day. Computed for the year on an average of 200 prisoners, this reduction aggregates an annual saving of \$13,140, which would otherwise have come out of the taxpayers' pockets and gone into the pocket of the sheriff. Let us recall also that in making this fight, the only support and active backing for The Bee's efforts to stop this graft came from the county board, while the various civic organizations looked on merely as spectators, and our so-called reform newspaper contemporaries actually endeavored to help the sheriff get away with the goods.

The Comptroller's Recommendations.
Among the recommendations made by the comptroller of the currency in his annual report several are likely to evoke a good deal of popular interest.

One is to reserve bank directories for members who actually direct, eliminating the nominal or strategic directors, who seldom so much as attend a meeting of their boards.

Another proposal which, however, is sure to be combated by those who object to making mere bigness a target, is for a law limiting the deposits of national banks to ten times their combined capital and surplus. The nub of the deposit problem is safety, and to say that the safety line is drawn at ten times the capital and surplus is purely arbitrary.

Comptroller Williams disagrees with some whose business requires the handling of large quantities of money as to the expediency of the money-laundering process. He strongly favors it and wants all signatures on notes and certificates hereafter engraved instead of written, as the ink fades when the money is washed. Those who object to the washing say that it makes the paper limp and difficult to handle, but the laundry proponents think that all objections are more than counterbalanced by the sanitary improvement effected.

A Sign of Inexperience.
A momentous discovery has been made down at Lincoln that one member-elect of the state senate, by his expense account affidavit, admits having paid out more money than the limit fixed by law. This terrible indictment, if proved, may subject the culprit to ouster from office. But still, it may be a matter for argument whether he should be so punished for telling the truth instead of pursuing the usual practice of making his expense affidavit with mental reservations to keep from overstepping the line of illegality. The only fair inference to be drawn is that any senator who allows himself to get tangled up in this fashion must be an amateur wholly inexperienced in "the mazes of the political highways and byways."

Fashions and Unemployment.
And now comes a feminine expert economist declaring that the whims and vagaries of styles are largely responsible for the unemployment of certain workers. Her theory is that women who demand new hats, coats, dresses and shoes each recurring season are the means of depriving thousands of men and women of work every year. She explains further by saying that manufacturers cannot provide steady employment for their people because they never know until the last minute what to make.

Perhaps this is sound logic, but it runs counter of a rather well established view that exactly the opposite tendency follows midlady's faithful submission to Dame Fashion's arbitrary demands. Certainly, to the untutored, it would stand to reason that the more changes of styles, the more work for the manufacturers, while, on the other hand, if women wore the same fashions from season to season, the output at the makers' naturally would diminish. At least, this has been the popular impression. If it is only an hallucination of ignorance, perhaps, more men may have the face to protest harder against footling the bills.

Frank B. Kellogg, who has been held up by the hosts of Armageddon as one of their illustrious heroes, appears in the newspapers of Minnesota as treasurer of a new organization, known as the Republican League of Minnesota, whose business is the complete re-organization of the G. O. P. in that state, which is doing its best, like all the rest, to stave for helping to put the Democrats in the saddle.

Views, Reviews and Interviews
By VICTOR ROSEWATER.

SOMEONE wants to know what I mean when I say that I am to contribute this column "periodically." Just to relieve possible distress I will say that I hope to talk under this heading at least once or twice a week, but that I am not holding myself to any schedule of fixed dates. If I can conjure up a desire in anyone to make sure of each appearance, he will have to keep up the lookout from day to day—perhaps that is a reason.

Another inquisitive friend wants to know how I succeeded in writing so beautifully the heading at the top. To be quite frank about it, I didn't. The lettering is in what is called "the library hand," being the writing preferred for catalogue work in libraries, because of its plainness and legibility. In the belief that the library hand would serve my purpose best, and also lend it oddity, I went over to the public library and asked Miss Hammond to copy the caption for me, but she modestly recommended Miss Baumer as the more expert in the art. Miss Baumer consented to accommodate, but with the assurance that the young woman to whom I had first applied in fact came nearer to writing a perfect library hand than anyone else in the establishment.

In saying that the library hand is preferred for catalogue work, I may have overrated it a trifle. It was once so preferred, but now, I believe, a printed script is used, or, still more often, a typewritten or typed card. Of course fashions in writing change as do fashions in other things. I remember that when I went to school, my teachers vainly tried to mold my scratches into a "Spencerian penmanship," and later when I put in a brief term at a commercial college the aim was to make me indite a so-called "business hand." It was all in the dim and the shading of the down strokes. Subsequently the "vertical" handwriting had the call, and then a modification that permitted of a slight tilt. I would not be surprised to live to see the day when handwriting will have become almost a lost art, except for personal signatures, and when all our manuscripts and written communications will be either typewritten, photographed or just talked over the wire.

While on the topic of handwriting, let me recall a schoolboy incident when I turned in an essay in my teacher of rhetoric at the High school, a young woman who herself wrote in near-hieroglyphics, and had it returned bearing the inscription, "Composition excellent; chirography miserable." I went to her at once and impudently asked, "Will you kindly tell me what you have written on my essay?" She didn't see the joke, but, fortunately for me, the principal to whom she sent me did.

Going to funerals is always depressing, and participating in the last sad rites over Frank I. Elick must have made everyone there pause and ponder on the swiftness with which comes the transformation from warm, virile, pulsating life to the cold, inert, emptiness that ends all on this earth. For many months I was closely associated with Elick as a collaborator on the Workmen's Compensation commission named by Governor Aldrich to investigate and report on the whole subject, and submit a draft of a compensation bill if our conclusions favored the project. At that time Elick was the veritable steam-engine of human energy. Whatever he took up, he went at it with a vim that left no doubt as to his confidence in its successful outcome, and in this he furnished an enthusiasm that more than once saved a dubious situation. In his own field of business activity he was wrapped up in what is known as "the cost system" of figuring printing jobs, and "the cost system" literally exuded from Elick's system. He was summoned all over the country as a lecturer to demonstrate the plan, and he had it down to a fine point with wall charts, blank forms, etc. In every commercial or social organization with which he was connected he was not only "a live wire," but ready to respond with alacrity and good spirit to every demand for his help.

People and Events

The famous Plymouth church of Brooklyn, where Henry Ward Beecher once held the pulpit, is threatened with a split on war issues. Some of the congregation are fighting mad because Preacher Hillis denounces militarism.

Arthur von Wagner is one of the "good fellows" who has been halted in St. Louis after establishing a relay of wives along his trail from Hoboken, N. J. Wagner does not know the number, and expressed indignation because the police stopped his good work.

In a contest between professional and amateurs the latter are handicapped from the start. In Chicago the other day, while six amateurs eagerly watched the growth of a jagpot, three professionals with guns broke into the session and "wiped the kitty."

The chief attendant of a safety deposit vault in Philadelphia is said to possess a remarkable memory. With between 400 and 500 boxes under his care, he never forgets the name of the renter, although he does not meet some of them oftener than once in three months.

For the first time since William Penn gave the state a handle to its name, Pennsylvania is enjoying the spectacle of the State Railroad commission giving the railroads a slap on the face instead of on the wrist. An order has been issued cutting the coal rate from the mines to Philadelphia 50 cents a ton.

Nearly sixty years ago, Reuben Ball and his wife took into their home in Minneapolis Laura Dorman, an orphan girl of 13 years. Laura became the wife of Charles F. Sims, a prosperous business man. At her death recently, having survived her husband, Mrs. Sims bequeathed \$50,000 to the grown daughters of her early benefactors.

Two bills for \$40,000 each put up by two lawyers in Brooklyn against the assets of the defunct Union bank, will dispose of what remains of that institution, if the court consents. Besides facilitating the winding up of the bank's affairs, the bills for legal services would put an end to the pain of depositors longing for a dividend.

An era of great reforms is to start with the new year in the treatment of prisoners in New York's Sing Sing penitentiary. The institution is to be made a man's resort for crooks and a nice residence during winter especially. Joy rides outside the walls, however, will not be permitted to wealthy guests, because the last one cost the warden his job.

Twice Told Tales

Hard to Follow.
Lady Duff Gordon, the fashion expert, said to a New York reporter:
"If you see a girl with a skirt as loose and full as a balloon, don't think her old-fashioned. The tight skirt has gone. The loose, full one has come back. It is very hard for you young men to keep track of the fashions. A girl said to a young man one evening:
"Here I walked through the Row and Piccadilly, and took you at the Carlton, and all the time the buttons of my blouse were unfastened at the back, and you never offered to do them up."
"Well," said the young man, "I thought perhaps it was the newest wrinkle. You see, I offered to sew up the slit in a girl's skirt the other day and she told me to mind my own business, or she'd tell her father."

Editorial Snapshots

Washington Post: No wonder the exceedingly rare dollar of 1864 is quoted at a fabulous sum, seeing that the case note of it has begun to look like \$25.

Baltimore American: The kings of Norway, Sweden and Denmark have formed another "three friends" alliance, with the famous motto: "All for one and one for all." In good working order.

Washington Star: Some eminent philanthropist may adopt the view that peace is secured by preparedness for war and leave a fund whose proceeds shall go toward the construction of new battleships.

Brooklyn Eagle: If Secretary McAdoo imagined himself a banking Romanoff, or a financial Hohenzollern, he is unbecomingly advised by the attorney general. He's only a consulting engineer in the federal reserve system.

Philadelphia Record: The president remarks amiably that the United States government is engaged in larger matters than patronage squabbles. It is, and if the senators neglect the larger matters to engage in a combination to restrict the president's right of selection they will lose the respect of the public.

The Bee's Letter Box

A Happy New Year for Humanity.
NEW YORK CITY, Jan. 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: May the new year be full of true happiness for you and for the men who help to make your newspaper a power for the good of humanity.

May your pen be mighty in rebuking wrong and in upholding the right. May you help to advance the true welfare of the people and to cause their deliverance from the thralldom of preventable diseases.

The power of the press is enormous. It can prevail even against tuberculosis, the most powerful ally of sickness and death and the most frequent cause of poverty.

It can prevail also against the condition of almost world-wide warfare that now ensues humanity. The strong insistence of the press of America upon the crime of war and upon the necessity for peace may seem an academic method of alleviating forty-two-centimeter guns, but I beg you not to weary of the task, for you will win. And in winning peace for the world you will make this really a "Happy New Year" for humanity.

The Stinger Stung.
SOUTH OMAHA, Jan. 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: I note the "sting" you attached to my letter in yesterday's Bee. I have a way of making myself understood even if I am no grammarian.

A Higher Grade of Fiction.
OMAHA, Jan. 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: In the Letter Box "J. T." advises Elaine Dodge to read the Menace. Intelligent readers of The Bee have detected in the articles about Elaine the clever advance notices of another of Mr. Reeves' charming mystery stories. To "J. T." she is evidently a real person pursued by the ferocious and blood-thirsty Romanists, who exist only in the imaginations of the Menace, and the imagination of his credulous readers.

Throwing a Hat in the Ring.
OMAHA, Jan. 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: The thought occurred to me a few days ago in hearing some of my friends discuss possible candidates for city commissioner that it might be a good plan to suggest at least one man possessing qualifications such as would make him politically available, and above all, an efficient officer after election. In doing this, I am suggesting the name of a man who has for many years been in close contact with the general public, is thoroughly conversant with city needs as a whole, as well as the individual citizen of our city. It is with no pleasure and pride that I can suggest the name of my fellow townsman, Mr. J. W. Metcalfe. M. O. CUNNINGHAM.

Paul's Marital Status.
OMAHA, Jan. 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: A. Moraine of Council Bluffs thinks if "Layman" would read 1 Corinthians 7, 8 and 9, he would be entirely convinced that Paul was a bachelor. I have read, reread and studied those chapters so much as to have a close working knowledge of them, though not claiming to have mastered them. It is they, with other parts of Paul's writings, together with the insight I've been able in years gone to get on the subject which continues to make me uncertain as to Paul's being a bachelor or, at the time of his illustrious writings on marriage, a widower. In my uncertainty I have eminent company. A. T. Robertson, A. M., D. D., professor in the Southern Baptist Theological seminary of Louisville, writing that excellent book of his, "Epochs in the Life of Paul," under date of 1909, says, referring to Paul's part in the widower's question: "The question is raised at once whether Paul himself was a member of the Sanhedrin. If one takes the language used by him it as to leave the whole question just where these theologians and commentators leave it. In these chapters Paul is understood to be telling the Corinthians of the great advantages, not so much of continued celibacy, as of temporary single blessedness (those who could properly do so) because of the peculiar condition of the church at that time. He was not pretending to say that marriage in itself was sinful, but simply that marriage at this particular time in the young church's career might be inexpedient and add to its hardships by depriving it of otherwise more free-handed leaders. LAYMAN.

Women's Activities

Miss Beah Whitehead has been elected justice of the peace at Seattle, Wash. She has made a study of social and civic reform work in the east. Serving under the prosecuting attorney as deputy, she has had necessary experience.

Dr. Mary Pierson Edley is a missionary heroine who has been doing splendid and heroic service in Syria for a number of years. She has done good work for the tuberculosis cause and in medical literature and is said to have shown skill and courage in whatever kind of work she has undertaken.

Probably the first woman town clerk in England, Mrs. Blaker, has made her appearance at Chertsey in the office temporarily vacated by the holder, who is serving abroad with the forces. The functions of town clerk of Chertsey have, for several generations, been performed by the Blaker family.

SUNNY GEMS.

Wife—Mrs. Blank is very extravagant in dress. Her husband told her she was carrying too much sail, whatever that means.

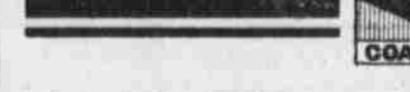
"They have some swell doings in that house about this time."
"Do you mean society functions?"
"No, the children have the mumps."—Baltimore American.

"This war news is an aggravation. The censor must cut out everything a man wants to know."
"Yes, they ought to call him the censor."—Detroit Free Press.

"I told my daughter her outfit was too light for shopping in this wintry weather."
"Well, did she put on something heavier?"
"Yes, she changed her light earrings for a heavier pair."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"Mr. Moneybags, what are you going to make of your son?"
"I can't make anything of him, but he's got a girl, who's making a monkey of him."—Buffalo Express.

"Sometimes," said Mr. Growcher, "I wish I were a boy again."
"Yet, they ought to call him the innocent pastimes of youth?"
"Not exactly. I'd like to be able to go out and handle some of these young-uns."



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